

Medical Facilities at Major Railway Stations

†4702. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the action taken by Government so far to provide medical facilities at all the major Railway stations in the country;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) Government's reaction in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) The Railway primarily provide comprehensive medical care to the railway beneficiaries. However, passengers are provided medical facilities in emergencies.

All stations have been provided with first aid boxes. Further, a number of important and strategic stations have been identified as model stations, which have been provided with augmented emergency first aid boxes for the travelling public in times of need. These augmented first aid boxes containing a wider range of medicines and resuscitative equipment etc. are kept in the custody of Assistant Stations Master/Deputy Station Superintendent. The station master has a list regarding medical facilities available in the vicinity of the railway stations with details of the facility such as distance from the station, inpatient beds, surgical facility, telephone number, etc. This list is updated from time to time. The front line staff are being given refresher course in first aid as per a schedule updated periodically. Illustrated first aid techniques are also displayed through rail net for the benefit of the various functionaries for ready reference. Further during emergencies, station masters have instructions to summon the nearby railway medical officer "on call" for attending on the affected passengers.

At nine important railway stations, a scheme was mooted to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

authorise the Chemist Shop Owners to provide a qualified doctor to provide upgraded first aid facilities to passengers during peak hours.

New Train between Bhopal and Mumbai

†4703. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the people of Bhopal have asked the Ministry of Railways to introduce a new train between Bhopal and Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government have seriously considered the said demand;
- (d) if so, by when Government propose to introduce the said train; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Some representations including those from Shri Raghavji, ex. MP. Shri P.K. Maheshwari, MP, Shri Vishnu Khatri, Member, ZRUCC etc. have been received in this regard.

(c) to (e) The representations have been examined. Introduction of Bhopal-Mumbai train is not feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

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